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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO U.S.
CANDIDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

REF: State 137429

1. Embassy delivered reftel diplomatic note and talking points regarding Michael Matheson's re-election to the International Law Commission to New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) on 23 August. Embassy is in receipt of a response note from MFAT. The text of the note follows:

2. Begin text:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's Note No. 53-06 of 23 August 2006 informing the Ministry that the United States has nominated Michael Matheson for re-election to the International Law Commission at the elections to be held during the 61st United Nations General Assembly.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade wishes to assure the Embassy of the United States of America that New Zealand will give careful consideration to this candidature.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade takes this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration."

McCormick